

Testimony to the House Elections Committee

Re: STRONG OPPOSITION to SB-13

12/3/2015

Members of this committee speak about doing away with straight ticket voting as "election reform." I believe what Representative Lyings, or Lines, I mean Lyons means to say is "Partisan Gamemanship." It's easy to make a simple mistake like that.

This bill is a transparent attempt to decrease voter turnout in heavily populated areas through long lines and a drop off in down ticket voting. It would be refreshing if the Republican in the house would simply state the truth. They want to institutionalize republican control of the state of Michigan. They don't want you to vote, and if you do vote they want to make you work for it. They want to make you wait in line, and late for work.

The proof of this is in the 1 million dollar appropriation. In 2001 Republicans tried the same underhanded tactic, but at least they had the courage to allow voters to have a say if they disagreed. And voters did disagree, overwhelmingly. But today's cowardly republicans do not care about Democracy, or voting rights, equal access to the polls, or even in a representational government. They believe in Republican control and that goal alone. That is why they have used a legislative trick of appropriating money; they know the people would repeal this law. We already have once.

I also question both the timing, and the purpose of this bill. What is the urgency, it is not as if this is a pressing issue that serves YOUR constituents. *Many (from both parties) who take advantage of the straight-party option on the ballot.* As an elected representative, your task is to represent the needs of your constituents. This bill clearly does not serve that purpose. Does this bill solve a pressing issue that Michigan is facing... It does not.

Representative Line's know that this will cause longer lines and institutionalize republican advantage. That is why she wants to see an actual decent law, no reason absentee voting, passed along side of this toxic bill. Well Representative Lines I am hear to tell you that arsenic served with honey may be sweet, but it is still poisonous.

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